

CHARTS
FLOW PLANS
PAINT NUMBERED
TREES

PERMANENT
SAMPLES

TIMBER
BOOKKEEPING

UNIT
RECORDS

THE DIAMETER
TAPE

TRIAL
BALANCE

PORT-A-
PUNCH

FOREST CONTROL

by

CONTINUOUS INVENTORY

"Today I have grown taller from walking
with the trees."

...Karle Wilson

Upper Darby, Pa. June 1967 No. 150

Attached is Michigan Technological University Ford Forestry Center's Research Note No. 2, Butt Log Grades Analyzed, by J. W. Meteer, Assistant Professor and Research Forester.

Jim is known to many of you. He used to be a Consulting Forester with headquarters in Ohio. He has been concerned with continuous forest inventory and tree grading for many years. Here he presents an analysis of the relationship between the butt-log grade (used as a tree-grade) and upper log grade in standing trees graded in the log lengths the trees would normally be bucked to make the best logs that could be cut out of them.

Twenty-five years ago, in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan on the Ottawa National Forest and on lands of the Copper Range Company, good estimates were made of standing marked-tree values using natural-length butt-log grades as tree grades, and applying curved value data from the Trout Creek Mill Scale Study. Jim's Literature Cited item No. 7 presents rough curved data derived from this study.

Lack of additional and broadly collected data on total-tree recovery against a natural-length butt log quality reference has long delayed development of a practical and accurate system for tree value appraisal. But now there is a bright light coming over the horizon. Over the past ten years, total-tree lumber grade recoveries from carefully bucked trees cut throughout the United States on projects of Forest Service Log Grade Committees have begun to build up a bank of data on this subject.

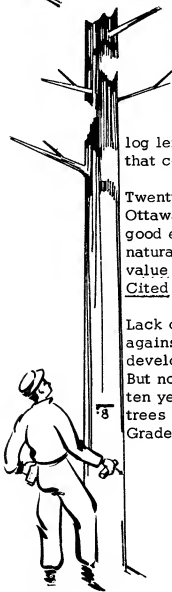
W. W. BARTON, Forester

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At the present time there are no fully-accredited tree-grades similar to the Forest Products Laboratory hardwood log-grades which are backed up with solid lumber grade-recovery analyses. We hope Jim's analysis may generate interest in using the new Forest Service Log Grade Committee storehouse of material to further explore the value associations between natural-cut butt-log grades and total-tree lumber grade recovery. This Forest Service data can be made available to University students who wish to work out a master's or doctorate problem aimed at development of a practical, sound and realistic system for tree value appraisal.